



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: A7490

Gautam BHASKAR, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/661,971

Group Art Unit: 1723

Confirmation No.: 8921

Examiner: K. Menon

Filed: September 14, 2000

For: CENTRIFUGE APPARATUS AND METHOD WITH IMPROVED TEMPERATURE CONTROL

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated August 28, 2002.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

Referring to page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1-9 and 16-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 98/30304 (WO '304) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,073,012 to Lynam.

WO '304 is relied upon to disclose an apparatus and a method of centrifuging blood or plasma using the apparatus. It is noted that the apparatus comprises container 10 for holding blood, a turn-table 1 for rotating the container, a halogen lamp 26 and an infrared heat source 27, temperature sensors 31, 32 and control unit 28. It is further noted that the container includes a piston and a cylinder, the piston dividing the cylinder into upper and lower chambers, and piston

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